

# Air Force Court-Martial Summaries

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December 2016



*This report lists convictions and acquittals for general and special courts-martial. The Air Force publishes these cases for deterrence purposes. Each military justice case must be resolved on its own facts. There are no expected or required dispositions, outcomes, or sentences in any military justice case, other than those resulting from the individual facts and merits of a case and the application of due process of law. Adjudged sentences reported here do not reflect any relief on the sentence that may have been granted during clemency or on appeal. When an Airman agrees to plead guilty to charges in return for some action by the convening authority, those pretrial agreements are noted and any impact on the adjudged sentence is included in the summary.*

## **AIR FORCE COURT-MARTIAL SUMMARIES – December 2016 (19 Cases)**

### **General Court-Martial Convictions**

1. At F.E. Warren AFB, WY, Airman First Class Nickolos A. Harris was found guilty by military judge of wrongful distribution and use of controlled substances. He was sentenced by officer members to a reprimand, reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), restriction to base for two months, hard labor without confinement for three months, and confinement for one year. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the adjudged sentence.
2. At Shaw AFB, SC, Senior Airman Troy C. Hodge was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of sexual assault and abusive sexual contact. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a dishonorable discharge, confinement for five years, and total forfeitures.
3. At Grand Forks AFB, ND, Senior Airman Michael J. Rich was found guilty by officer members of sexual assault. He was sentenced to a reprimand, reduction to Airman (E-2) a dishonorable discharge, and confinement for 60 days.
4. At Sheppard AFB, TX, Airman Basic Matthew J. Shillington was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of larceny of property valued less than \$500. He was sentenced to a reprimand, restriction to base for 14 days, and forfeiture of \$200 pay per month for three months.

### **General Court-Martial Acquittals**

5. At JB San Antonio-Lackland, TX, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer and enlisted members of aggravated sexual contact with a child, sexual abuse of a child, and assault consummated by battery of a child.

### **Special Court-Martial Convictions**

6. At Sheppard AFB, TX, Staff Sergeant Andrew J. Branson was found guilty by a military judge of assault consummated by battery, willful damage to property, and drunk and disorderly conduct after pleading guilty to those offenses. He was also found guilty by officer and enlisted members of assault consummated by battery and dereliction of duty. He was sentenced to a reprimand, reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, and confinement for three months.
7. At Hurlburt AFB, FL, Airman First Class David Vincent Diel was found guilty by officer members of wrongful distribution and use of controlled substances. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, confinement for 60 days, and forfeiture of \$1,044 pay per month for two months.
8. At RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom, Airman First Class Dewayne W.S. Grant was found guilty by a military judge of making false official statements, malingering, and failure to go. He was sentenced by officer members to reduction to a reprimand, Airman Basic (E-1), hard labor without confinement for one month, confinement for ten days, and forfeiture of \$1,044 pay per month for two months.
9. At MacDill AFB, FL, Technical Sergeant Jason D. Gregory was found guilty by officer members of wrongful distribution and use of a controlled substance and possessing with intent to

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use drug paraphernalia. He was sentenced to a reprimand, reduction to Senior Airman (E-4), and confinement for 45 days.

10. At Offutt AFB, NE, Airman First Class Lawrence E. Kloberdanz was found guilty by officer members of wrongful use of controlled substances. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), restriction to base for two months, and hard labor without confinement for three months.

11. At Luke AFB, AZ, Airman First Class Brandon R. McCracken was found guilty by military judge alone of wrongful use of controlled substances. He was sentenced to a reprimand reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), confinement for four months, and forfeiture of \$1,044 pay per month for four months. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the adjudged sentence.

12. At Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, Airman First Class Ryan H. Meilleur was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to a reprimand, reduction to Airman (E-2), hard labor without confinement for 30 days, and confinement for 10 days.

13. At JB Andrews, MD, Master Sergeant Preston G. Perkins was found guilty by officer members of larceny of government property valued over \$500 and fraud against the United States. He was sentenced to reduction to Staff Sergeant (E-5) and forfeiture of \$500 pay per month for six months.

14. At Fairchild AFB, WA, Airman John G. Rykken was found guilty by military judge alone of wrongful distribution and use of controlled substances and fraudulent enlistment. He was sentenced to a reprimand, reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, and confinement for 100 days. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the adjudged sentence.

15. At Fairchild AFB, WA, Airman First Class Brian E. Walton was found guilty by military judge of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He was sentenced by officer members to a reprimand, reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), hard labor for 60 days, and forfeiture of \$1,044 pay per month for five months. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the adjudged sentence.

16. At Hill AFB, UT, Airman Layne C. Wheat was found guilty by officer members of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to a reprimand, reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), and confinement for one month.

17. At Whiteman AFB, MO, Technical Sergeant Grant Joseph Woollums was found guilty by officer members of making a false official statement. He was sentenced to a reprimand and reduction to Staff Sergeant (E-5).

18. At Peterson AFB, CO, Airman First Class Jessica R. Timmons was found guilty by military judge alone of being absent without leave and failure to go. She was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic and confinement for 100 days.

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**Special Court-Martial Acquittals**

19. At Aviano AB, Italy, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of wrongful use of a controlled substance.